

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /031 W

----- 020693

R 142108Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3712

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2177

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJECT: THE HARNESSING OF GENERAL NIVAR

REF: SD 2132

1. MAJ. GEN. NEIT NIVAR SEIJAS, NEWLY DESIGNATED CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE, HAS ALREADY FELT THE WEIGHT OF AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT BALAGUER. FIRST, TWO KEY POLICE TRANSFERS WHICH HE MADE IMMEDIATELY UPON ASSUMING THE OFFICE HAVE BEEN CANCELLED WITHOUT EXPLANATION. BOTH TRANSFERS - ONE AS COMMANDER OF NORTHERN DEPARTMENT BASED AT SANTIAGO AND ONE AS COMMANDER AT LA VEGA - SUBSTITUTED NIVAR LOYALISTS FOR SUPPORTERS OF MAJ GEN PEREZ Y PEREZ, WHO RESIGNED MAY 9 AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF TO PROTEST THE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT OF NIVAR AS CHIEF OF POLICE. CANCELLATION WAS ORDERED BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER.

2. SECOND, PRESS REPORTS THAT NIVAR HAD ARRESTED TWO HIGH RANKING POLICE OFFICIALS - A COLONEL AND A LIEUTENANT COLONEL - RECEIVED TACIT CONFIRMATION WHEN NIVAR REPLIED TO PRESS INQUIRIES SAYING ONLY THAT THIS WAS AN INTERNAL POLICE MATTER. EMBASSY HAD LEARNED AUTHORITATIVELY, HOWEVER, THAT COL JOSE PAULINO REYES DE LEON AND LT COL FELIX POLANCO GONZALEZ, BOTH PEREZ Y PEREZ SUPPORTERS, HAD BEEN ARRESTED BY NIVAR, THAT PEREZ Y PEREZ, IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH BALAGUER, HAD REQUESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT ORDER THEIR RELEASE, THAT BALAGUER HAD DONE SO AND THAT

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NIVAR HAD RELEASED THEM.

3. A THIRD OCCURRENCE WAS TWO UNCHARACTERISTIC CALLS MADE YESTERDAY BY NIVAR AND SOME 15 TO 20 HIGH POLICE OFFICIALS ON NEW SECSTATE OF ARMED FORCES AND ON NEW ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF.

4. WE KNOW THAT BALAGUER HAS TOLD GEN NIVAR TO STOP THE IN-FIGHTING AND END VINDICTIVENESS. DESPITE THIS PRESIDENTIAL DESIRE, IT REQUIRED DIRECT ORDERS BY THE PRESIDENT TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE TWO POLICE OFFICERS AND CANCELLATION OF THE TRANSFERS. ALTHOUGH THE COURTESY CALL BY NIVAR AND HIS POLICE DELEGATION ON THE NEW MILITARY LEADERS COULD REPRESENT HIS VOLUNTARY RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR HARMONY OR COULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRECEDENTS, THE ACT IS SO CONTRARY TO NIVAR'S CHARACTERISTIC POSTURE OF THE STRONG MAN ON WHOM OTHERS ATTEND BUT WHO CALLS ON NO ONE EXCEPT THE PRESIDENT, THAT WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY BALAGUER SPECIFICALLY ORDERED NIVAR TO MAKE THE GESTURE.

5. PRESIDENT'S MOVES TO HARNESS NIVAR MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED IN PART BY DESIRE TO PROPITIATE MILITARY LEADERS WHO HAD RESIGNED. THESE ACTIONS CAME AT MOMENT WHEN A NUMBER OF UNIT COMMANDERS WERE PRIVATELY ASSURING PEREZ Y PEREZ, JIMENEZ AND LLUBERES MONTAS OF THEIR CONTINUED LOYALTY.  
HURWITCH

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, PINS, DR, (NIVAR SEIJAS, NEIT)  
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